

### NHL Significance:

- National Park System Advisory Board*



- The Northwestern Branch contains property types not found at other Homes. In its evolution, it influenced the manner in which subsequent branches were designed.
- Wood National Cemetery (Soldiers Home Cemetery) is an integral part of the Home, providing a final benefit -- honored burial among comrades.

**Integrity:**

- The historic core is remarkably intact and has suffered the loss of relatively few key buildings. The core contains six clusters of resource types critical to interpreting the early history of the NHDVS; however, deterioration of materials in some of the key buildings is at a critical point.
- The Main Building is a very rare and original example of the earliest development efforts of the Board of Managers.
- A number of early buildings, service buildings, flower gardens, and agricultural lands, are gone, however, post-1930 development has been largely separated from the core area.

**Owner of Property:** Federal

**Acreage of Property:** Approximately 173 acres.

**Origins of Nomination:** Via an interagency agreement with the Department of Veterans Affairs Federal Preservation Office (VA FPO), and through a Cooperative Agreement with the National Council on Public History, the NPS contracted for a context study to assess significance and develop NHL nominations.

**Potential for Positive Public Response or Reflection on NHL Program:**

- Recognition of the NHDVS as a nationally significant resource will help Americans to better understand the commitment of the federal government to its military veterans.
- The successor of this ground-breaking federal policy in veterans care is of current national interest.



**Potential for Negative Public Response or Reflection on NHL Program:** None known.

**Landmarks Committee Comments:**

**Landmarks Committee Recommendation:** Designation. Dr. Carson moved, Dr. Murtagh seconded; unanimous approval.

**Public Comments Favoring Designation (comments received as of 11/17/10):**

Ann Pieper Eisenbrown, Chair, Milwaukee Historic Preservation Commission

Gwen Moore, U.S. Congress, Wisconsin

Royce A. Yeater, AIA, Midwest Director, National Trust for Historic Preservation, Chicago, Illinois

James A. Duff, President, and Mary Panzer, Vice President, Soldiers Home Foundation, Inc., Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Glenn D. Haggstrom, Executive Director for Acquisition, Logistics, and Construction, Department of Veterans Affairs

**Advisory Board Recommendation:**